

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04149 060726Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 ACDA-07 DHA-02 /093 W
-----065949 060729Z /17

R 060613Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4758
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4149

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR PINT ET
SUBJECT: HIGH-LEVEL EPMG DELEGATION VISITS RECAPTURED TOWN

REF A) ADDIS ABABA 3672 B) ADDIS ABABA 3748

SUMMARY: HIGH-LEVEL ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL MILITARY
GOVERNMENT (EPMG) DELEGATION, LED BY PROVISIONAL MILITARY
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (PMAC) MEMBER MSGT. LEGESSE ASFAW,
CHAIRMAN OF POLITICAL MILITARY AFFAIRS, VISITED RECAPTURED
TOWN OF HUMERA, GONDAR PROVINCE AND "GESIT" ARMY FORCE
WHICH STILL THERE, JULY 2. VISIT COINCIDED WITH EPMG
AMNESTY OFFER TO ETHIOPIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION (EDU)
SUPPORTERS AND CONTINUING MEDIA CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTING
"VICTORIES" BEING ACHIEVED OVER EDU. END SUMMARY

1. AS FURTHER PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION SUCCESSFUL EPMG
RECAPTURE OF HUMERA AREA, JULY 5 ETHIOPIAN HERALD
REPORTED VISIT TO ETHIOPIAN-SUDANESE BORDER TOWN OF
UNUSUALLY HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION, LED BY PMAC MEMBER
MSGT. LEGESSE ASFAW. DELEGATION INCLUDED MINISTERS OF
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PAGE 02 ADDIS 04149 060726Z

INTERIOR, AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, RELIEF AND REHABILITATION
COMMISSION COMMISSIONER AND COMMERCE AND TOURISM PERMA-
NENT SECRETARY. DELEGATION MET BY FORCE COMMANDER OF
GESIT ARMY FORCE WHICH RECAPTURED HUMERA AND APPARENTLY
USING TOWN AS BASE. MSGT. LEGESSE SPOKE TO PEASANTS
AND OTHER RESIDENTS ABOUT "ON-GOING ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION"
AND URGED THOSE WHO HAD FLED HOMES AND HAD BEEN MISLED

BY "WILD PROPAGANDA" TO RETURN AND LEAD NORMAL LIVES.

2. EPMG ANNOUNCED JULY 1 AMNESTY HAD BEEN GRANTED TO "ALL FORMERLY OPPRESSED INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD BEEN MISLED TO FLEE AS RESULT OF FALSE PROPAGANDA OF SO-CALLED EDU GROUPING". MEDIA HAS BEEN REGULARLY REPORTING "LIQUIDATIONS", CAPTURES, AND SURRENDERS OF EDU RECRUITS, SUPPORTERS AND BANDITS IN WOLLO, GONDAR, AND RECENTLY GOJJAM PROVINCES. THERE APPEARS TO BE EFFORT TO DEMONSTRATE EPMG TRULY ON OFFENSIVE AGAINST "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES", "REACTIONARIES" AND "WHITE TERROR".

3. COMMENT: MSGT. LEGESSE ASFAW APPARENTLY BECOMING MAJOR FIGURE WITHIN PMAC AND RUMORED TO BE MENGISTU'S SURROGATE AT HEAD OF MARXIST-LENINIST GROUP. REVOLUTIONARY FLAME. LEGESSE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC SPEAKER AND ALLEGED TO EMBRACE SAME GOALS AND STYLE AS MENGISTU. HE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE A RIVAL TO MENGISTU AUTHORITY AT PRESENT, BUT RATHER AN AUGMENTATION. HIGH-LEVEL NAUTRE OF DELEGATION TO HUMERA PROBABLY INDICATION OF IMPORTANCE PMAC ATTACHES TO GESIT ARMY AND ITS EFFORTS AND SHOW OF STRENGTH ALONG SUDAN BORDER. OFFER OF AMNESTY ALMOST CERTAINLY DIRECTED AT GONDAR PEASANTS TO RETURN TO FARMS AND DOES NOT APPLY TO HARD-CORE EDU LEADERSHIP. EPMG APPEARS TO BE SQUEEZING LAST OUNCE OF MORALE BOOSTER FROM HUMERA RECAPTURE BEFORE LAUNCHING MORE

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PAGE 03 ADDIS 04149 060726Z

DIFFICULT EXPECTED PUSH INTO ERITREA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMNESTY, MILITARY VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PBOR, PINT, MOPS, ET, EDU, (LEGESSE ASFAW)
To: STATE
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